

CONNECTION

LIBRARY OF CALIFORNIA

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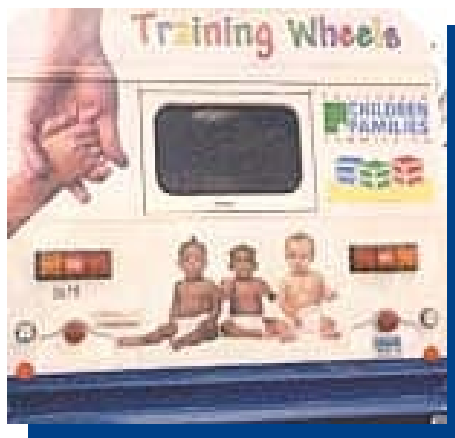
First LLABS vehicle arrives in Stockton/San Joaquin County

The first Library Literacy and Books Services (LLABS) vehicle arrived at the Stockton/San Joaquin County Library in January 2001. Nicknamed "Training Wheels," this 32-foot-long vehicle provides Families For Literacy (FFL) type services to hard-to-reach families and care providers with children under five years of age.

LLABS has books, educational videos and video players for loan. It also has computers and educational software for pre-schoolers so that families without access to computers can become familiar with them prior to their children entering school. And LLABS provides a variety of intergenerational activities for families, including story times, puppet shows, and storytelling. As part of their services to families, LLABS distributes free children's books and literacy-enriching materials for the home through this LLABS vehicle.

The program requires that each recipient public library partner closely with other agencies and services in its county/community to see that families are connected to the important services available to them. The partnering effort will ensure that families are provided with literacy, parenting, health, nutrition, safety, and other valuable information.

The purchase of the first LLABS vehicle was through the support of the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and



Technology Act grant, which the California State Librarian administers. The grant will serve as a model for another ten vehicles destined for public libraries throughout the state.

The California State Library also received a California Children and Families Commission grant award of \$2.1 million in 2000. This state money has been

granted to ten public libraries statewide to purchase LLABS vehicles, like the one that visited the Stockton/San Joaquin County Library, and operate them for one year.

Four LLABS vehicles will be parked near the San Francisco Convention Center on Saturday, June 16, 2001, during the American Library Association's annual conference. These vehicles will be featured during the conference as an exciting new outreach effort.

For general information about LLABS, visit their new Web site at www.literacynet.org/llabs. For additional information, contact Carole Talan, Library Literacy Programs Coordinator, CSL, at (916) 653-8032, or by email at ctalan@library.ca.gov.



Three programs highlight latest literacy campaign activity

Below are updates on three projects of the California State Library's California Literacy Campaign program:

Early Steps to Reading Success (ESRS):

Public library literacy staff were encouraged to partner with this exciting project of the California Council for the Education of Young Children (CCEYC) and to share the opportunity with their children's services departments. A key benefit of this ESRS project is that selected sites throughout California will receive satellite dishes, and the sites will receive three year memberships to the national Head Start network called "Heads Up! Network." To get these great benefits, libraries participating in this project must host a 44 hour training course for daycare and home-care providers using the satellite dish. To date, eleven public libraries have received satellite dishes, and ESRS will notify libraries about an additional round of satellite grants later this year.

New Partnership with the Vermont Center for the Book (VCB):

The California State Library recently entered into a new partnership with the VCB to pilot *You Can Count on Mother Goose*, a family program designed to help parents with children four to eight years old to use and value math. Like the previous science curriculum partnership and pilot program entitled *Mother Goose Asks Why?*, the new program uses quality children's books to engage participants in the pilot program.



California will use the pilot project with the VCB to focus on families with low literacy skills. The VCB is not only providing \$10,000 worth of books and materials, but also training for five public libraries with Families For Literacy (FFL) programs. Library jurisdictions selected to participate include Escondido, Riverside County, South San Francisco, Solano County, and Napa City/County.

Governor's Book Fund (GBF):

Over 2,700 applications for the GBF School Library Enrichment Grants were received in December 2000, an overwhelming response for the first year. Forty-seven school libraries were selected based on their need and their creative approaches to selecting and promoting the books purchased with the grant money. Each selected library will receive a grant of \$5,000 towards the purchase of new books for their school libraries. For general information about GBF, see www.literacynet.org/govfund.

For additional information about these program, contact Carole Talan, library literacy programs coordinator, at (916) 653-8032, or by email to ctalan@library.ca.gov.

IN MEMORIAM

Lawrence Clark Powell, A legendary librarian

Lawrence Clark Powell died in Benson, Arizona Wednesday, March 14, 2001, at the age of 94. Powell, an extraordinary librarian and literary bibliographer, was best known for his work at the UCLA library where he established the UCLA School of Library Service. UCLA's library on the Westwood campus in Los Angeles was named the Powell Library when Powell retired, a fitting tribute to this pioneer of the library field.

California State Librarian Dr. Kevin Starr made this statement about Powell's passing: "Lawrence Clark Powell was not only my personal friend and constant correspondent. He was my model as well for what a librarian should be: in love, that is, with books, information, libraries, and the life of the mind. Dr. Powell will now rank with Justin Winsor and Althea Warren in

the pantheon of great American librarians."

Although Powell was chief librarian at UCLA for 28 years, from 1944 until he retired in 1966, he was also a writer: his love of books overflowed from bibliographical science into biography and fiction. His most famous biographies and essays are about Western writers such as Robinson Jeffers, Charles Edward Pickett, Zane Grey, and Raymond Chandler. Powell also wrote novels.

In addition, Powell was president of the California Library Association, the Bibliographical Society of America, and was a California Historical Society fellow.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, a memorial service is scheduled April 8 at 2 p.m. in the Singing Wind Bookshop near Benson, Ariz.

Connecting the future with the past:

Digital storytelling in Sunnyvale

By Steve Sloan, Sunnyvale Public Library

With the proliferation of information available on the World Wide Web and other technologies, one of the questions that arises is how the public library of the future will remain viable. One answer could be that the pulse of a library depends on the strength of its heart: the community. In this scenario, development of community and local history resources could become a vital component of any library service mission. Libraries would then become not only collectors and organizers of local information, but producers of content as well. The *Sunnyvale Voices: From Settlers to Silicon* project represents this scenario as one possible avenue for libraries to take in the future to capture and preserve their local history through the stories of their residents, and to make them available in a variety of formats.

The project began in early 1998 when the Sunnyvale Public Library celebrated its 85th birthday. The library held a birthday celebration during which longtime residents shared their recollections of life in Sunnyvale before it became known as the "center of Silicon Valley." Apricot growers, defense workers, and others reflected on how much change had taken place over the years. After the event, members of the audience approached library staff requesting that the library somehow capture these stories so they could be shared with others in the future. This input from the community along with the realization of the dwindling number of people who had memories of Sunnyvale's early history led to capturing these stories with the help of a computer.

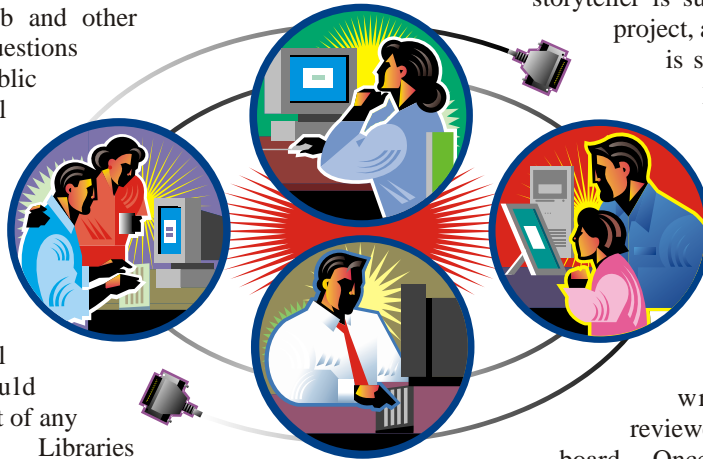
Digital stories are dynamic and interactive; they typically include voice, music, photographs, and video elements. The stories are digital because all of the processes involved including capturing, scanning, recording, editing, and distribution are accomplished with the help of a computer. The tools of a digital storyteller include digital still and video cameras, scanners, video editing computer workstations, and various software applications. Building on the work of the Center for Digital Storytelling at UC Berkeley and the non-profit Digital Clubhouse Network in Sunnyvale, the Sunnyvale Library's digital storytelling project aimed to provide access to the oral histories of local residents.

Creating a digital story begins with an orientation meeting of the story collector and the storyteller. If the storyteller is sufficiently interested in the project, a story development session is scheduled. At this session, possible stories are discussed until both the storyteller and story collector agree on one that will be interesting to local residents and easy to tell in 4-7 minutes (the average length of one story). The storyteller prepares a written draft, which is reviewed by an informal editorial board. Once approved, the storyteller telling his or her story is recorded using a digital video camera. The video footage is combined with a soundtrack, any scans of photographs the storyteller may have shared, and any digital still pictures taken during the session. A project file of the session is then created using an Adobe Premiere software program. The project can then be transferred for archival purposes onto CD-ROM or a backup hard drive, to VHS or S-VHS video tape for public viewing or cable broadcast, or to Real Player formats for streaming the video over the World Wide Web.

This project is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the state librarian. Between October 1999 and September 2001, the Sunnyvale Public Library received two LSTA grants to fund the Sunnyvale Voices project. During this time, both storytelling and technical processes were developed and refined. Twenty-two stories are anticipated to be complete by the end of the grant period in September 2001.

"After hearing the different Sunnyvale Voices stories, the community seems more like a large family," observed Ann Zarko, one of Sunnyvale's longtime residents.

For general information about the Sunnyvale Voices project, visit their Web site at <http://sunnyvalevoices.org/>. A detailed project manual is also available on the site in both HTML and PDF formats. For additional information, contact Steve Sloan, reference librarian, Sunnyvale Public Library, at (408) 730-2768, or by email to ssloan@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us; or Al Bennett, library programs consultant, CSL, at (916) 653-7743, or by email to abennett@library.ca.gov.





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Bond board deliberates on regulatory language

The California Public Library Construction and Renovation Board met on February 26 and arrived at informal agreements on draft regulatory language to guide the allocation of voter-approved funds for public library construction and renovation. This informal, preliminary work will lead to formal regulations, which must be in place before any funds can be allocated under the bond act.

The board had two options for defining “joint-use” under the terms of the act, and it decided to use the broader of the two options. The narrower of the options would have given priority to projects that were “co-located” school-public library buildings on or near public schools. The option chosen allows co-location projects and also allows for the provision of physical space in public libraries for computer labs, family literacy centers, homework centers, and career centers to meet the “joint use” language of the act. Under this option, however, the board agreed to encourage joint-use projects actually located at schools.

The board also agreed to expand the chosen option to include additional specific joint-use services and added the wording, “and other similar library services, which directly benefit K-12 students.”

The board asked staff to expand and modify the cooperative agreement requirements to provide for greater flexibility. The board also endorsed the idea that the contract between the state and the local grant recipient should indicate that the project will be operated as a public library for 20 years.

The board agreed not to limit their future choices by having funding “set-asides” of any kind.

The board discussed recommendations put forward by the state treasurer to include urban planning and sustainable development considerations in the regulations. The board agreed that to determine the location of a new library, consideration should be given to its contribution to the establishment, redevelopment, or revitalization of a community or downtown core, business district, or neighborhood. Applicants will describe how the proposed library is connected to other uses, including public use facilities, by a full range of transportation and pedestrian options.

The board also agreed to require applicants to provide a rationale for their parking requirements.

The board decided that there will be three funding cycles, with six months to elapse from the completion of rulemaking to the first application deadline. There will be nine months between subsequent application cycles. The allocation of funds for each cycle shall be no more than \$150 million for the first cycle; \$110 million for the second cycle, and all remaining available funds in the third cycle.

Finally, the board directed staff to develop an evaluation system for reviewing and assessing applications under the bond act. A point system will not be included in the evaluation system.

LSTA re-authorization to be considered by Congress

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) has been called California's library "venture capital" by State Librarian Dr. Kevin Starr. Although LSTA has several programs, the one the general library community considers most important is the annual grants of local assistance funds that are administered by the state libraries. The allocations are based on a formula that is primarily driven by population. California receives the largest share, which totals \$14,623,319 in FY 2000/01. Of this amount almost \$12 million is allocated in a competitive process either individual grants to libraries, or through specially targeted statewide projects coordinated by the Library Development Services Bureau of the California State Library.

Congress must reauthorize the LSTA every five years. The current Museum and Libraries Act of 1996 (of which the LSTA is a part) expires September 30, 2002. To develop a broad-based consensus a coalition of library groups has created a reauthorization committee. Participants include such groups as the American Library Association, the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, the National Commission on Library and Information Service, and the Association of College and Research Libraries. This committee is

developing proposed legislation for consideration by Congress. Among the committee's recommendations are an increase in funding to \$500 million per year, an increase in the base level of funding which primarily benefits smaller states, additional funding for program analysis, and additional language promoting and clarifying the applicability of the program to all types of libraries.

The two congressional committees that have the responsibility for the reauthorization are the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, and the House Education and the Workforce Committee.

Additional information on the re-authorization can be found at the American Library Association Washington Office Web site at www.ala.org/washoff/lsta.html. For general information on LSTA, contact the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) that oversees LSTA. Their Web site is www.imls.gov. The California State Library maintains information about its LSTA program and grants at www.library.ca.gov/html/grants.html. Information on the program can also be obtained by contacting Jay Cunningham, LSTA program coordinator, at (916) 653-8112, or by e-mail to jcunningham@library.ca.gov.



Update from the California Center for the Book

Two California Center for the Book programs recently featured author and illustrator David Macaulay in Los Angeles. As part of the Video Author Visit series, Macaulay discussed his book, *Building the Book Cathedral*. Michael Cart, a novelist, literary critic, and adjunct lecturer at UCLA, interviewed Macaulay on March 16. This program celebrated David Macaulay's writing career as he looked back, with humor and insight, over two and a half decades to the book that launched it.

Macaulay and Cart were at the KCET studios in Los Angeles. They talked with audiences at Brawley Public Library, Nevada County Library (Nevada City, Calif.), Point Arena High School Library, and Woodland Public Library via live interactive videoconferencing facilities.

The following day, Macaulay talked with Cart about his new book, *The Road to Rome*, in a program at the Santa Monica Public Library. For many completed works writers produce early drafts which never make it to print. Not so with Macaulay, however. *The Road to Rome*, printed by Steinhour Press, reprints 50 of the preliminary illustrations that eventually evolved into Macaulay's recent work *Rome Antics* (Houghton Mifflin, 1997). *The Road to Rome* commemorates a presentation by Macaulay in the Sayers Lecture series at UCLA in February 2000. A book-signing and reception followed. This program was presented by the Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, the California Center for the Book, and the UCLA

Department of Information Studies.

Copies of *The Road to Rome* can be purchased for \$40 (plus tax and shipping) from UCLA's Department of Information Studies. Please contact Cindy Mediavilla (310) 206-2962.

Second Mondays in Sacramento

Sacramento Public Library is hosting "Second Mondays at Central: A Noontime Poetry Series," September 2000 - May 2001. The monthly events are hosted by, among others, Sacramento poets laureate Dennis Schmitz and Viola Weinberg. Each month, hosts and participants share their favorite poems and celebrate a different theme. This series is a project of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. Sacramento Public Library and Capital Public Radio also support it. Full details can be found at www.saclibrary.org.

San Diego hosts Cold War series

San Diego Public Library is currently hosting the six-part series "*Post-War Years, Cold War Fears: American Culture & Politics, 1946-1960*." Audiences are exploring the post war years through scholar-led discussion and documentary films and texts that include *The Fifties*, *Truman and Eyes on the Prize*. This series is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Library Association, and the City of San Diego. Full details can be found at www.sannet.gov/public-library.

2001

April

April 25-27, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Sacramento

June

June 9-14, 2001

Special Libraries Association Annual Conference, San Antonio

June 11, 2001

LSTA fiscal year 2001/2002 applications due

June 14-20, 2001

ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco

June 27-29, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Fresno

August

August 15-17, 2001

Library of California board meeting, San Diego

October

October 31-November 2, 2001

California School Libraries Association (CSLA)
Annual Conference, Long Beach

November

November 2-5, 2001

California Library Association (CLA)
Annual Conference, Long Beach

November 5-7, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Long Beach

November 14-18, 2001

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
National Conference, Indianapolis

2002

January

January 18-23, 2001

American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting,
New Orleans

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Articles for inclusion in a
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